

FORM B - BUILDING

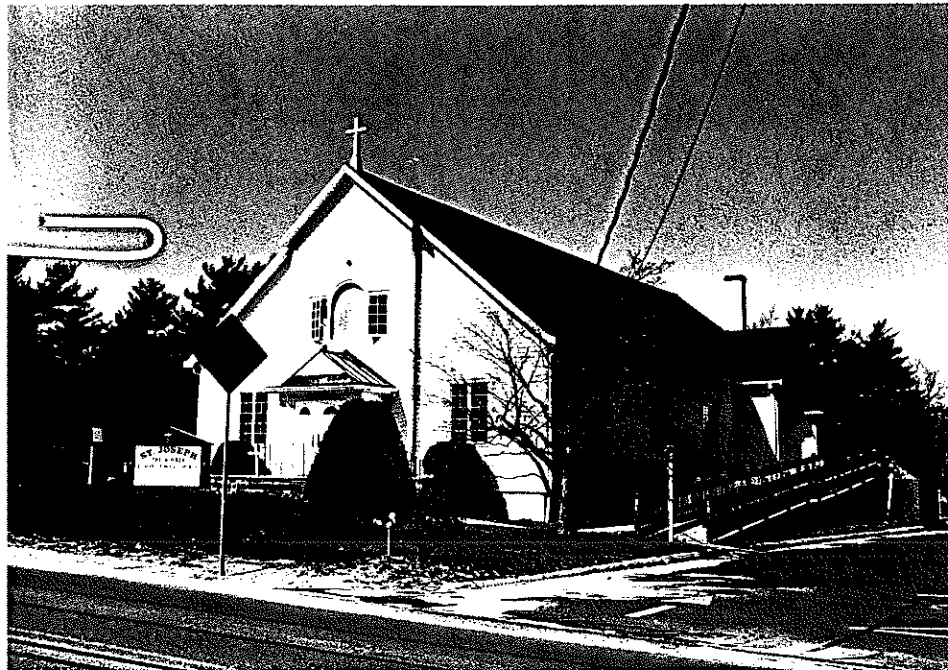
Assessor's #
71-23

USGS Quad
Hanover

Area

Form #
11

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Building
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125



Town **Hanson**

Place

Address **25 Maquan Street**

Historic Name **St. Joseph The Worker
Roman Catholic Church**

Use: Present **church**

Original **church**

Date **1939**

Source **History of the Town of Hanson**

Style/Form **Classical/gabled nave**

Architect **Robert Lloyd**

Exterior Material:

Foundation **poured concrete**

Wall/Trim **aluminum**

Roof **asphalt**

Outbuildings **none**

Major Alterations **residing**

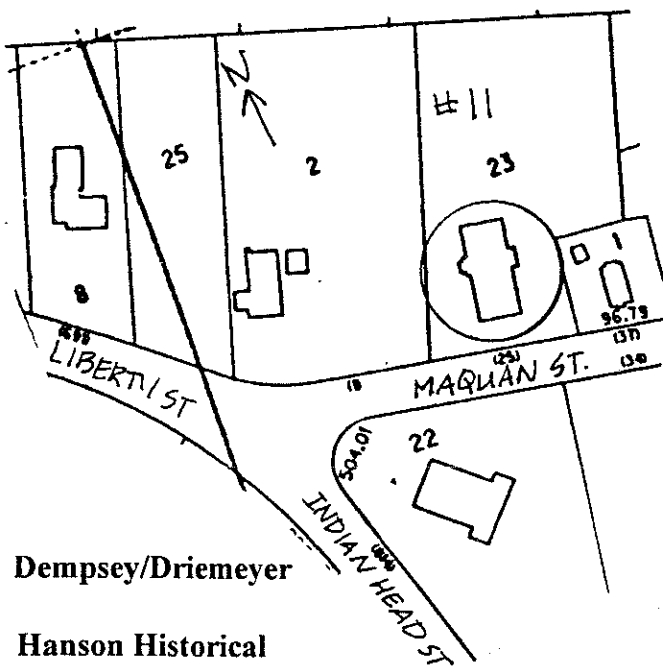
Condition **good**

Moved **no**

Acreage **1.40 acres**

Setting **village suburban**

Sketch Map



Recorded by **Dempsey/Driemeyer**

Organization **Hanson Historical
Commission**

Date **April 1996**

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

St. Joseph the Worker Roman Catholic Church at 25 Maquan Street is a modest, simply massed, gabled nave church with a T-shaped footprint in the Classical style. The predominant massing feature is the gable form, used at varying scales at the entries. The church's front entry is accessed by a bilaterally staired elevated platform. The slightly projecting center bay of the three-bay facade is further augmented by the small, gabled entry porch and a stained-glass Palladian window. The five-bay deep nave is symmetrically fenestrated with small transepts at the fourth bay. Entry into the transepts is through small gabled entry porches. The rear of the gabled nave is augmented by a smaller scaled gabled ell, probably an apse. The sloping lot allows for a full-height basement story under the rear portion of the building. The church is sited close to the street and is surrounded on the side and rear elevations by an asphalt-paved parking space and on the left, a ramp provides access to the rear transept.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

The Catholic Church was one of the later denominations to formally establish itself in Hanson. The Catholic population remained quite small until the third decade of the twentieth century. The first area church was established in Abington as St. Bridget's in 1863. Later in the century Catholics in southern and western Hanson belonged to the Whitman church (established 1886) while those in northern Hanson attended Hanover's Our Lady of the Sacred Heart (established 1879). Increasing numbers of Catholics arrived in Hanson in the second decade of the twentieth century, migrating from the Boston area. The Monponsett area, located in the south section of Hanson and adjacent Halifax on the ponds of the same name, as well as Bryantville and Mayflower Grove, located in the east of Hanson and adjacent Pembroke on Little Sandy Bottom Pond, were developed as summer colonies with a sizable Catholic population. Increased demand prompted the pastors of neighboring parishes to hold mass in the theater at the Mayflower Grove and at the Monponsett Hotel. The first Catholic Church in the Monponsett area, Our Lady of the Lake, was established in 1922 used by the growing Catholic population. Not until the late 1930s did the church turn its attention to the northern and western parts of Hanson, whose residents continued to attend Whitman's Holy Ghost Church, in a bus supplied by the church. In July 1938 the property on Maquan Street was purchased from the Hanover Fireworks. The church was designed and built by Robert Lloyd of Arlington and dedicated in 1939 as a mission of the Monponsett church. Until 1945 the Hanson churches were a part of the Hanover parish at which time they separated. Eleven years later the two churches were established as separate parishes.

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Community
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Property Address
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National Register of Historic Places Criteria Statement Form



Check all that apply:

☒ Individually eligible. ☐ Eligible only in a historic district.
☐ Contributing to a potential district. ☐ Potential historic district.

Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D

Criteria Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Statement of Significance by **Dempsey/Driemeyer.**

St. Joseph the Worker Roman Catholic Church at 25 Maquan Street is a modest, simply massed, gabled nave church with a T-shaped footprint in the Classical style. The form and style parallels nationally popular ones used for small-scale ecclesiastical structures in the first half of the twentieth century. The Catholic population in Hanson remained quite small until the third decade of the twentieth century. Increased numbers of Catholics prompted the construction of this church in 1939. St. Joseph the Worker Roman Catholic Church meets criteria A and C at the local level. It retains integrity of location, setting, design, workmanship, feeling and association.